

the drop on the half-breed, and with one rifle shot Murdock was on his way to the happy hunting ground!"¹⁰ It was the end of the trail for Ab.

In 1908 Nymphus moved from his Charleston home to Heber City with his first wife Sarah, having given his second wife Esther a church-approved divorce. Nymphus installed one of the then newfangled telephones in his Heber home, but Sarah wouldn't use it because she said it was like talking to the dead! Nymphus had always been a poor man's philosopher, and some of his sayings are worth repeating. He said, *"I'd rather be a big toad in a little pond than be a little toad in a big pond, that's why I moved from Salt Lake City to Charleston."* He didn't think it was possible to get much work from a boy if more than one was hired, saying, *"One boy is a boy, two boys equal half a boy and three boys are the same as no boy at all!"* Another philosophy he shared was, *"A poor man has but one dog, while a poverty stricken man has two dogs, and a beggar has all the dogs he can get. You can always tell how poor a man is by the number of dogs he has!"*¹¹

His wife Sarah died in 1909 and after being married to two wives for most of his life, Nymphus was lonely, so in 1913 when he was 80 years old he married Elizibeth Green, who was then 75. After the ceremony he announced to his family and friends that he and Elizibeth had decided not to have any children! Four years later, on April 19th, 1917 Nymphus died at home. His last dying act was to give his son Joseph a Patriarchal Blessing. He had been a pioneer from the same mold as Joseph Murdock. He had been a pioneer, legislator, sheriff, militiaman, and Black Hawk War veteran as well as a prominent businessman. When he died he left an estate of \$40,000, a fortune at that time. One of his own sayings described him best, and was a fitting eulogy. *"When I die I will have ten years of work planned!"*¹²

With neither Joseph nor Nymphus to care for him, poor Benny Norris became even more of a burden for Jane and Elizibeth. In his old age he had to be cared for constantly. He lived to be 81 years old, dying on October 13th, 1921. He was the last tie with the Murdock's New York State home.

10. Salt Lake Tribune, June 26th, 1911.

11. Men Of The Rockies, Pg. 58, Hanks, 1944.

12. Ibid, Pg. 57.

The life of Joseph Stacy Murdock was a life of adventure, and the times in which he lived spanned an era from the first western settlement to the dawn of the twentieth century, from Indian villages to modern cities, from ox teams to gas buggies. Although he lived and talked with Prophet Joseph, his last child died as recently as 1966. Joseph Murdock and all of his immediate family are gone now, but his heritage still lives on, forever remembered on the rolls of the Utah pioneers, and in names as solid and everlasting as Murdock Mountain. His memory will last as long as the mountain lasts.